

Time: 2 hrs.

General Instructions:

- * You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.
- * This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
- * The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.
- * Attempt All FIVE questions.
- * The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets []
- * You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1, and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

Q.1 (Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question). [20]

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following topics:

- a. Write an original short story which illustrates the truth of the statement "Unity is strength."
- b. 'Technology has distracted and isolated people'. Express your views for or against the statement.
- c. Describe what you saw and did at a National festival in your city in which you took an active part.
- d. Narrate an incident of your life which you still recall with happiness.
- e. Study the picture given below. Write a short story or a description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it,



Q.2 (Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question) Select one of the following: [10]

Select one of the following:

- a. You have just got a new computer. Write a letter to your friend telling him about its features.
- b. Write a letter to the Director of the electricity board complaining about the irregular supply of electricity in your area and how it causes disturbance in the smooth functioning of the household activities.

Q.3 a. Your school is organizing an Inter-House Painting Competition. Write a notice for the same informing the student about the competition. [5]

b. Write an email to a famous painter requesting him/ her to be the judge at the painting competition. [5]

Q.4 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

One evening some of Napoleon's soldiers were having a drink together when a young Frenchman brought a friend to their table. He explained that his friend was a Swede and knew no French: but he admired Napoleon so much that he wanted to join the French army and fight for him.

The soldiers looked up and saw a tall young man with blue eyes. They liked him at once. They explained that his new friends would help him if any difficulty arose about the language. The officers saw that he was the right sort of man for them, and he became one of Napoleon's soldiers. He fought bravely in many battles, and gained their respect. His knowledge of French remained very weak, because he was not good at learning languages.

Several years later they heard that Napoleon himself was coming to inspect them, and the Swede was warned that the great man would probably ask him some questions. He looked very anxious.

It was well known that Napoleon always asked the same three questions and usually in the same order. The first question was "How old are you?" The second one was, "How long have you been in my army?" And the third one was "Did you serve in either of my last two campaigns."

The Swede could not possibly remember all these words and so he learnt the answer in the proper order. His friend gave him a lot of practice.

For many days, the practice continued. The Swede used to walk about, saying to himself. "Twenty- three, Sir, Three years, Sir, Both, Sir!" Before the day of the inspection, his friends were satisfied. He knew his words. There ought to be no trouble.

Napoleon arrived standing in front of the motionless line of soldiers. He looked at them with great satisfaction. Then he began to walk along the lines, smiling sometimes in a friendly way, and saying a few words here and there. The Swede stood quite still except that his lips moved slightly. He was still practicing.

Napoleon suddenly caught sight of the tall soldier and realised at once that he had never seen him before. He stopped in front of him and asked his questions. Unfortunately this time the great man began with the second question.

"How many years have you been in my army?" He demanded.

"Twenty- three, Sir," said the Swede clearly and well. Napoleon was surprised. He looked at the tall man and asked, "How old are you, then?"

"Three years, Sir," said the Swede bravely. Napoleon was astonished and angry.

"Either you are mad, or I am," he declared. "Both, Sir!" cried the Swede proudly.

- a. Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage: One word answers or short phrases will be accepted. [3]
- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| i. Probably | ii. Campaign | iii. Astonished |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
- b. Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.
- | | |
|--|-----|
| i. Give a brief description of the new comer. Why did he want to join particular army? | [2] |
| ii. What was the Swede poor at? | [2] |
| iii. Why did the Swede learn answers only? | [1] |
| iv. How did Napoleon feel when he looked at his army? | [2] |
| v. Why do you think all the practice made by the Swede failed? | [2] |
- c. In not more than 50 words state what happened when Napoleon arrived. [8]
- Q.5 a. Fill in each of the numbered blanks with correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write the answers in correct serial order- [4]
- Example (0) was provided

A minister in the government whose knowledge of English was very poor 0 (provide) with a Secretary 1 (write) speeches for him. "2 (Give) me a fifteen- minute speech on the Non- aligned movement," 3 (order) the minister. The text was prepared to last fifteen minutes. But when the minister proceeded 4 (make) his speech, it took him half an hour to do so. The organisers of the conference 5 (upset) because their schedule 6 (disturb). The minister was upset because his Secretary had let him down. He upbraided him, "I 7 (ask) for a fifteen minute speech, you gave a half hour speech. Why?" He demanded. Sir, I gave you a fifteen minute speech. But you 8 (read) out its carbon copy as well."

[4]

- b. Fill in each blank with an appropriate word.
- i. These good are not exempted _____ duty.
 - ii. She takes _____ her mother.
 - iii. Truth always prevails _____ the long run.
 - iv. Michelle is longing _____ meet me.
 - v. Why do you interfere _____ my affairs?
 - vi. A cheque was enclosed _____ the letter.
 - vii. She had always hankered _____ riches.
 - viii. The elder sister was deprived _____ her share of property.

c. Join the following sentences to make one meaningful sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so'. [4]

- i. My brother fell asleep. He was reading a novel.
- ii. He had left the country. His letter came late.
- iii. You helped Rita. She will always be grateful to you.
- iv. The child would have drowned. The Porter Saved him.

d. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning and the tense. [8]

- i. My aunt said to me, "Do you want some ice- ream?" (Bring: My aunt asked me)
- ii. The coffee is too hot for me to drink. (Remove- Too)
- iii. As soon as the rain started, I opened my umbrella. (Begin- No Sooner)
- iv. Though he is poor, he helps others in need. (Begin: Inspite.....)
- v. The decision of the Principal surprised us. (Begin: We)
- vi. No other planet is as big as Jupiter. (Use- bigger)
- vii. You need not do it just now. (Begin: There is)
- viii. My cousin earns a lot but he spends a lot as well. (Begin: The more)
